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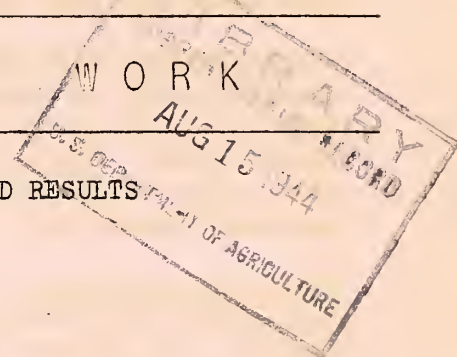
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Cap 4

Extension Service - War Food Administration

WARTIME EXTENSION WORK

SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS
BASED ON STATE REPORTS



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Some items in this week's summary:

- Use of DDT for fly control demonstrated on 64 heifers.
- Rural people welcome expansion of food-locker plant facilities.
- Negro farm families organized into community canning groups to share pressure cookers.

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SOUTH DAKOTA
July 24, 1944

Farm labor.- Counties are conducting combine survey to determine need and schedule for out-of-State combines. Small-grain crop is estimated as largest on record in section where all grain is combined. Ten area offices have been organized to route migratory and intrastate workers as well as custom operators. Total of 21 counties have certified for 2,100 out-of-State workers, preferably from Oklahoma, since 200 Oklahomans were used in Day County last year. Some of certified labor is expected to consist of Mexican nationals, of whom 300 are now working in sugar beet industry in Butte County. These will be used in harvest and threshing area until October 1, when they will return to beet fields.

VFW program is under way, with 647 nonfarm youths signed for agricultural work. Over 100 boys and girls, Boy Scouts, and 4-H Club members will detassel corn in Union County. Smaller groups will do similar work in Hamlin, Lake, and Brookings Counties. Rural teachers are cooperating in labor program, and 60 percent of them are now working on farms. Plans are complete for two work camps to house 75 Boy Scouts each, for potato harvest in September. Equipment and recruits are available if more camps are needed.

Insect control.- Fly project was started, using new DDT on 64 Hereford heifers on ranch in Marshall County. This is result demonstration where ranch foreman was given training and enough material was left for his use all summer. Project will be checked periodically. Controls appear to be satisfactory, but improvements must be made in carrier. Prospects are that three more such projects will be started.

Grasshopper program is progressing satisfactorily in most counties. In some others it is hindered by lack of cooperation on part of growers. However, 70 power bait spreaders are now in use in State. Bait has been spread along 600 miles of

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railroad right-of-way in cooperation with railroad companies. Muddy roads have prevented complete township coverage, but everything possible is being done to bait roads and idle lands.

In cooperation with State association, survey was made of all drug stores to determine supply of rotenone on hand or needed. Through efforts of WPB, manufacturer released 3,000 pounds of 0.5 percent rotenone to wholesalers for distribution in South Dakota. Cards were sent to all druggists in State telling them about available supply so that wholesalers would not have rotenone left on their hands. This procedure should make rotenone available to every gardener in State.

Foods and nutrition.- Home and war food agents have held food-preservation clinics throughout South Dakota to give homemakers opportunity of learning new improved methods. At clinics pressure-cooker gages were tested for all homemakers who wanted this service.

Ten additional emergency war food agents were given training and instruction in food preservation at conference lasting a week. Subjects studied included causes of food spoilage, use and care of pressure cookers, and gage testing. Conference was largely laboratory session in which new agents participated in actual canning and testing. Both acid and nonacid foods were canned. Each new agent gave complete demonstration for practice.

Nutritionist attended annual meeting of freezer-locker managers of State for discussion of operation problems of interest to homemakers. Nutritionist contributed information on methods of handling certain foods for locker. Plans were made to hold freezer-locker meetings throughout State.

Clothing.- Home demonstration agents in counties having 4-H clothing project have trained demonstration teams in various phases of wartime clothing selection and conservation. Teams will demonstrate in local communities at county 4-H Achievement Days during August and at State fair in September. These teams make helpful contribution to clothing conservation in their communities. Among topics chosen were moth control, care of woollens in laundering, fabric conservation, removal of spots and stains, and care of sewing machines.

VIRGINIA
July 1, 1944

Dairying.- Quality milk production and butter making at home were emphasized, particularly for 4-H Club members, at State short course and at Holliday Lake district camp. Home demonstration members also studied subject. Instructions were given to 14 boys newly graduated from vocational high schools to qualify them as dairy herd-improvement association supervisors, and 11 survived course. Need for such supervisors now appears to have been met.

Special attention was given to 8-Point Milk Production Program. During first 5 months of 1944, milk production in Virginia was 4 percent over same period last year, reaching highest level in May. Steering committee for 8-point program held general planning conference in Roanoke to outline program for coming months.

Other activities included assembling of data to prove bulls; inspection of bull association projects; establishing new dairy herd-improvement association supervisors on job; reorganization of herd-improvement and bull associations; giving farmers information on feeding to help them maintain milk-production level.

Agronomy.- Agronomist met with other agronomists, seedsmen, and representatives of AAA in Washington to discuss and arrive at price and method whereby seedsmen would agree to handle cover-crop seed on purchase-order plan. At meeting of State Certified Seed Commission, best method of getting farmers to produce and save largest amount of quality seed for use this fall was considered. Corn fertilization and quality hay production were taught 4-H youngsters at State and district camps.

Food locker plants.- Demand for educational and engineering assistance on refrigerated-food locker plants has continued to increase. Two new plants were put into operation in first half of year and at least six others have been approved by War Production Board. Assistance in development of new plants in 17 other counties has been requested. Rural leaders everywhere feel that refrigerated-food plants contribute much in saving of meats, fruits, and vegetables. Several Virginia Extension representatives attended work conference in Knoxville, Tenn., to get up-to-date information on all phases of locker-plant development, design, and operation.

Poultry.- Two poultry specialists worked in 15 counties and held 17 meetings, attended by 481 people. Both helped teach poultry at State 4-H short course and at club camp.

Home demonstration work.- Roanoke County home economists met in Salem and planned unified county program in food preservation. Twenty-six community meetings, some being for negroes, were scheduled for discussion of methods of canning and use of canning equipment and freezer lockers. Home demonstration agents, home-economics teachers, farm security workers, and trained local leaders are cooperating. In Botetourt County, timely demonstrations on streamlining home for wartime living aroused much interest among women.

Negro activities.- Farm agents have been working with farmers on food conservation, vegetable gardening, terracing and landscaping, seed treatment, hog sanitation, insect control, and poultry production. Typical examples of this work, as reported from different counties, follow.

Food conservation (King and Queen County): Three canning demonstrations were conducted with attendance of 67 women from 3 communities. Instruction was given in modern methods of canning and storing vegetables and meats, and in how to harvest onions and store them for winter. In 8 communities in county, women have been organized into groups representing 12 families each. For each group, two pressure cookers will be provided for use of families in canning their vegetables and meats under some leader who has been instructed in methods of canning.

Vegetable gardening (Charlotte County): In community meetings stress has been laid on Victory Garden for every family and increase in food and feed production. At one meeting, seeds of edible soybeans, collards, and sweet corn were distributed to farmers to plant in their gardens.

Terracing and landscaping (Lunenburg County): At 5 terracing demonstrations, total of 2,000 yards were staked and completed, and about 3,500 yards were left staked.

Seed treatment (Isle of Wight County): Drive to get farmers to treat seed to insure better stands has been intensified both in meetings and in farm visits. Preliminary checks showed about 65 percent of farmers have treated seed to extent

ranging from a few acres to their whole crops. Checks also revealed that in spite of unseasonably dry weather, treated seed that has been planted is holding its own against rot and insects. Some farmers who did not treat their seed have reported some of it rotting.

Insect control (Isle of Wight County): Potato crop is suffering from infestation of potato beetle. Farmers were recommended use of rotenone or arsenate and lime dust instead of trying to control beetles by hand picking.

Hog sanitation (Dinwiddie County): In interest of hog sanitation 51 farms were visited for cholera protection. As hog cholera was found on three of these farms, hogs on all adjacent farms were treated to prevent outbreak.